



TV

# UNITED NATIONS NATIONS UNIES

U.N. IN ACTION

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## CRAZY MEDICINE

### VIDEO

TRAVELING SHOT  
COUNTRYSIDE / URBAN

POPPIES/DRUG ON HANDS

FOOTAGE OF DRUG RAIDS

CHARTAI SUTHIKLOM,  
SENIOR NARCOTICS

### AUDIO

#### NARRATION

Once notorious as a centre of the world's opium trade, South East Asia – home to the 'golden triangle' – is now fighting a different drug demon. (10")

Over the last decade, just as farmland has given way to urban jungles ... drug crops like opium poppies have given way to odourless, hard-to-detect synthetic drugs ... methamphetamines, also known as speed. (15")

Their Thai name is "ya-ba" – "crazy medicine"... the drug is made easily in clandestine laboratories with highly toxic but inexpensive ingredients, making methamphetamine manufacture and trafficking a lucrative trade for criminals. (17.5")

CHARTAI SUTHIKLOM: (English) **M**

*They can produce anywhere, anyhow, and any time. They can traffic in any form, and they can*

CONTROL ADVISOR, ONCB,  
ON CAMERA

*find the chemicals anywhere. (9)*

NARRATION

CHARTAI IN HIS OFFICE  
CONFISCATED DRUGS

Chartai Suthiklom (chart-eye soo-ti-kloum) is senior narcotics control advisor at ONCB, the drug control agency of Thailand – a country where ya-ba accounts for 80% of illicit drug cases. (13")

CHARTAI ON CAMERA

CHARTAI SUTHIKLOM: (English) **M**  
*The epidemic of metamphetamine is growing faster than any in history. (5")*

NARRATION

VARIOUS SHOTS OF DRUG  
SEIZURES

MILITARY PERSONNEL FIND  
DRUGS IN A FIELD

In 2006 alone, methamphetamine seizures in Thailand and the rest of the region – including China – amounted to 40 million pills and 8.4 tons of crystal meth ... evidence that the fight against traffickers of synthetic drugs has become the major drug-control challenge here. (19.5")

UNODC PERSONNEL AT  
WORK

Akira Fujino is the former regional director of the United Nations office on Drugs and Crime. (5")

AKIRA FUJINO, FORMER  
REGIONAL DIRECTOR OF  
UNODC, ON CAMERA

AKIRA FUJINO: (English) **M**  
*"What is concerning to us is the fact that major labs have been found in different places of this region which has never been targeted by traffickers before." (8.5")*

WS. DRUG SAFE  
HOUSES/RAID

NARRATION

Places like Thailand's neighbour, Cambodia, where large-scale drug production was, until recently, unheard of. (7")

GEN. MOEK DARA LEADING  
A RAID

Last year General Moek Dara led a raid on this clandestine lab – the largest found to date in Cambodia. (7")

MAJ.GEN. MOEK DARA ON  
CAMERA

MAJ. GEN. MOEK DARA: (Cambodian) **M**  
*"We had never seen anything like this before in Cambodia. We had raided drug production centres – but never anything on this scale."*  
(10")

CHEMICAL/DRUGS BEING  
DESTROYED

The case highlighted the fact that no one country alone can stop this drug trade (5.5")

AKIRA FUJINO ON CAMERA

AKIRA FUJINO: (English) **M**  
*"Without international practical co-operation and joint law enforcement activities it is not possible for the authorities to stop the activities of the traffickers. "* (8.5")

SMALL MOTOR BOAT

NARRATION

WS. SMALL TOWN/  
BUSY PEOPLE  
POLICE RIVER & LAND  
PATROL

To stop traffickers in this sleepy border town near the Mekong river which separates Cambodia and Laos, police from the two sides must rely on each other – and on neighbouring countries – to exchange intelligence. (13")

MAP / PATROL ROUTE

Their aim is to block a new drug supply artery that starts in Myanmar, and moves through Laos

POLICE SEARCHING A BUS  
FOR DRUGS

– into Cambodia and Thailand. The results so far are encouraging, says Akira Fujino. (13.5”)

SOT - WHILE POLICE  
SEARCH

**(SOT) AKIRA FUJINO:** (English) **M**  
*“We have now seen containment ... because of joint collaborative law enforcement.” (5.25”)*

BANGKOK COMMUNITY  
VOLUNTEERS

**NARRATION**  
In Thailand – where entire neighbourhoods in the capital Bangkok are now patrolled by community volunteers on the lookout for dealers – authorities say that the ya-ba epidemic is being rolled back. (13.25”)

CUFFED HANDS,  
SUSPECTS  
ARRESTED/PICK-UP

But across the region, the fight against ‘crazy medicine’ is likely to continue for years to come... (6.5”)

UN LOGO

This report was prepared by Michele Zaccheo for the United Nations.